

# THE PRESBYTERIAN OF THE SOUTH

VOL. I.

ATLANTA, GA., AUGUST 4, 1909.

NO. 31.

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## Editorial Notes

In Japan less than one per cent of the population are Christians. Indeed only one-fourth of one per cent have accepted Christ. Yet in the Japanese parliament the Christians constitute four per cent of the membership.

The report of the U. S. Commissioner of Education shows, says the American Magazine, that there are only twice as many school teachers as there are bartenders in the country. This disproportion, if not broken, will tend to make the need for educators even less. Men cannot support both the saloon and the school! No wonder the common sense of the people is asserting itself and that the saloon is going.

Is family worship a "thing of the past?" At the late General Assembly, North, Dr. Frazer, of Baltimore, offered a resolution in which this phrase was used. Upon the ground that worship in the home is a thing of the past, his resolution urged special effort in Sunday-school lines. Several members of the Assembly objected, and the word "much neglected" was substituted. But the incident remains, and it may serve to awake many a family to the importance of this duty.

Does any man say that he cannot; that he does not know how to lead in prayer? But surely he can call his family together; surely he can read a chapter of the Bible; and at the least they can repeat the Lord's prayer in concert. Then he can ask his pastor to write for him a form of prayer, and he can memorize it or he can read it. We can all manage it in one way or another.

Fifteen years ago Miss Jennie Casseday, of Louisville, that life-long cripple, inaugurated the Rest Cottage, where shop girls or factory girls might enjoy a fortnight's rest. For many years she had been unable to rise, even for a moment, from her couch. She could arrange for the hour of morning prayer, because the girls could assemble in her bed-room. But how could she be sure that a blessing was asked at the meals? No one girl was brave enough to lead. She solved the problem. She arranged a form of blessing, that could

be put to music and at every meal, before they began to eat, the girls sang a blessing. If we cannot arrange for family worship in the ordinary way, let us plan some other way—just so that it be not neglected.

The Christian Advocate, of Nashville, very keenly observes that it was a very naive announcement which the press despatches made of the "wet" victory in Bristol, Va., that when the result became known in that city "pandemonium reigned." The Advocate adds, "Doubtless it did. 'All the demons' have no better representative on earth than the rum demon; wherever he has his seat the rest follow. Poor Bristol will soon find what it means to be reigned over by "Pandemonium."

The evangelistic meeting of Dr. Chapman and Mr. Alexander, at Melbourne, was one of much interest and power, creating a religious atmosphere throughout the city and the surrounding country, and greatly encouraging the ministers and quickening the churches. About the first of June the evangelists transferred their work to Sydney. The opening meetings there were attended by multitudes, and Dr. Chapman was very hopeful of an extensive awakening. **The Southern Cross**, a weekly religious paper of Melbourne, which is kindly sent to our office, is giving full report of this campaign of the American evangelists in Australia.

At the Harvard Summer School of Theology last week, Dr. Chas. W. Eliot, president emeritus of the University, is reported to have made some startling announcements as to his views of the religion of the future. According to the newspaper brief abstract, the scheme is naturalism; Unitarianism bringing its logical fruit. It is a rejection of Christianity in all its supernatural elements, its divine authority, its divine Redeemer, its divine grace changing human character, and relying only on natural law and human morality and altruism. The world has tried the scheme of natural religion with many bitter disappointments; while the religion of the Christ of God is winning and saving the world.

The Synod of the Protestant Churches in Belgium has sent to the American Baptist Missionary Union, Boston, a proposal to withdraw all missionaries from the Congo, and turn their mission and mission work over to the Protestant Belgians. This action is urged in the interest of harmony between the missions and the Congo Free State. A conference has been held between representatives of the Baptist missions with the president of the Belgian Synod, representatives of English missions in the Congo being present. Officials of the Baptist Mission Union says, "Such a proposal is almost too radical to be entertained, but it is to be hoped that from this discussion some good may come to the Congo."